

I understand that the Sinclair media group has instructed all its radio stations to broadcast an extensive "documentary" on John Kerry during the final weeks of the presidential campaign--a program that in fact will constitute a partisan political statement.

I also understand that individual media outlets have First Amendment rights to articulate political positions

But I believe that the Equal Access provision of the FCC regulations would put Sinclair into non-compliance with those regulations should they go ahead with their plan to broadcast the Kerry piece and not offer the Kerry campaign an equivalent opportunity. I certainly intend to raise questions about this at license renewal time if the situation is not rectified.

Sinclair's actions are only one symptom of the problem created by the never-ending concentration of media ownership, which increasingly removes control over the airwaves from the people of this country, to whom legally they belong. They show why the license renewal process ought to be strengthened.